

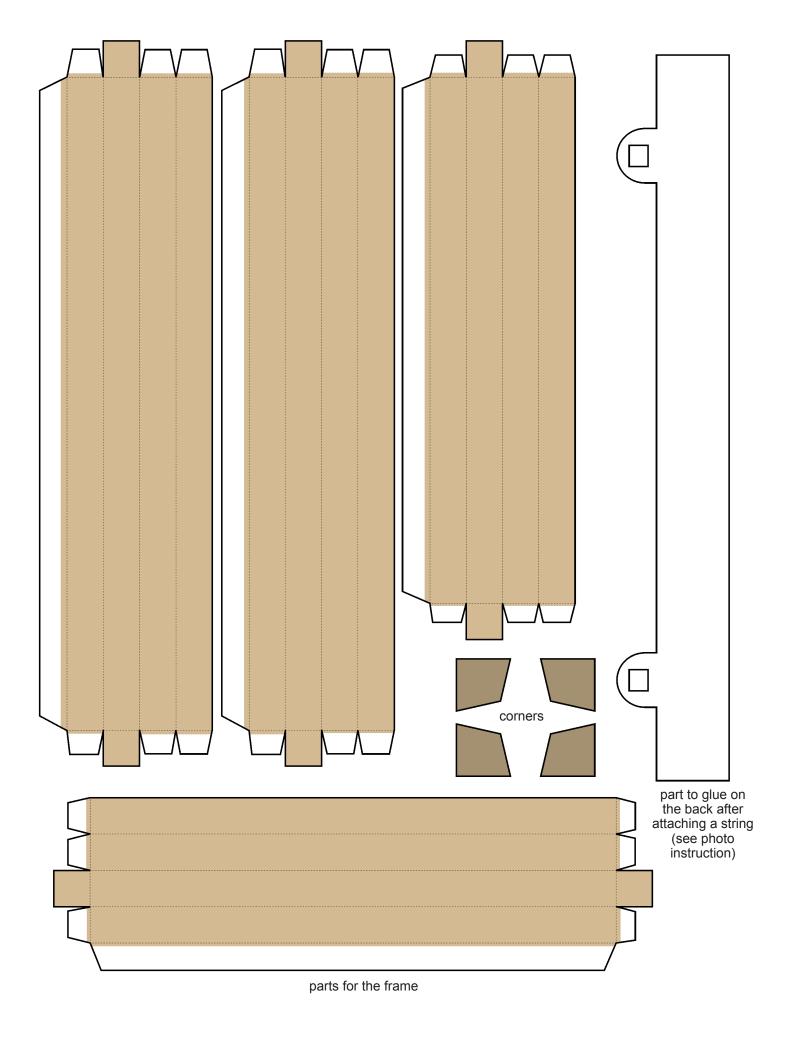


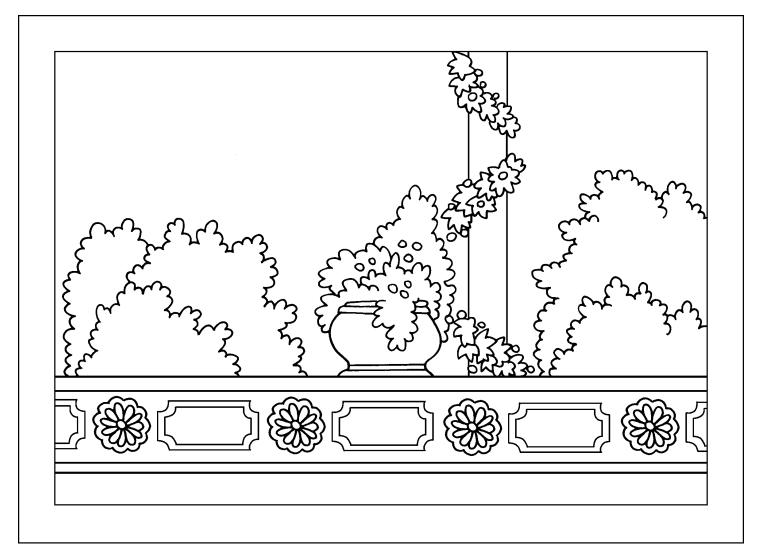
After the Babylonian Empire faded from history, a new power arose, the empire of the Medes and the Persians. During the rule of King Ahasuerus, there was a Jewish man named Mordecai who lived in Shushan, the capital of the empire. Mordecai's family had come to live in Shushan when Jerusalem had been captured earlier under the Babylonian Empire. In Moredecai's care was Esther, his uncle daughter, who he adopted after the death of her parents.

At this time, many of the Jewish people had returned to Jerusalem, while others had stayed in Persia. However, all was not well for the Jews in Persia due to Haman, the king's prime minister, who was threatening to destroy them.

But God had a plan to save them. Not through the mighty power of an army, but through the love and courage of the young Jewish woman, Esther, who risked her own life to intercede with the king to save her people and defeat the evil plans of Haman.





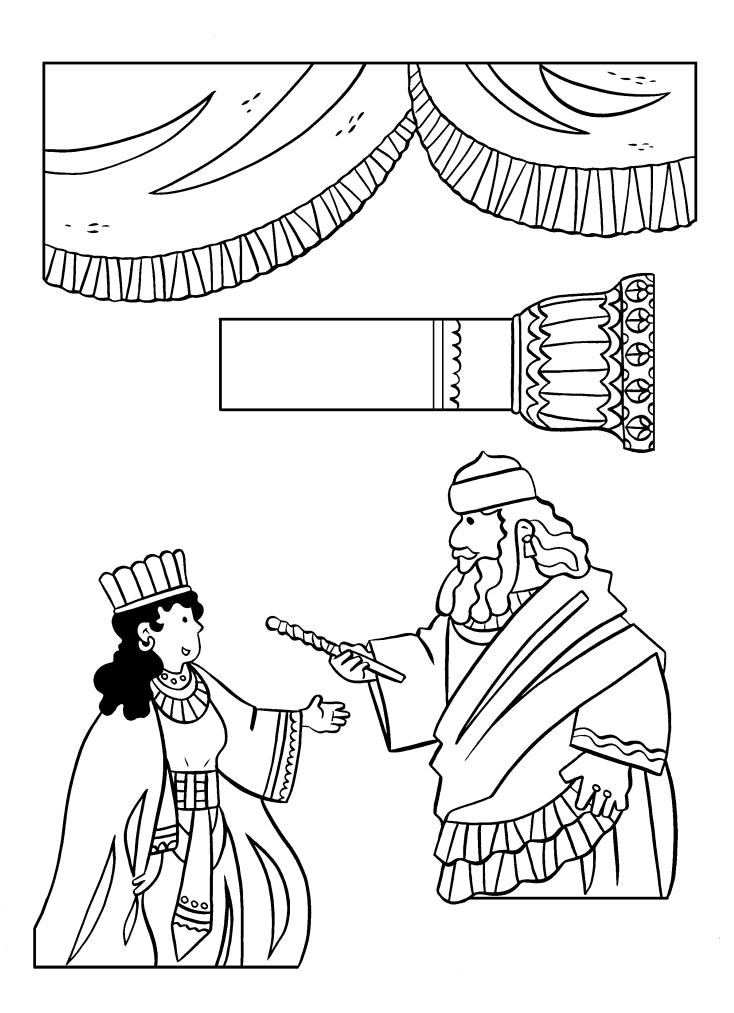


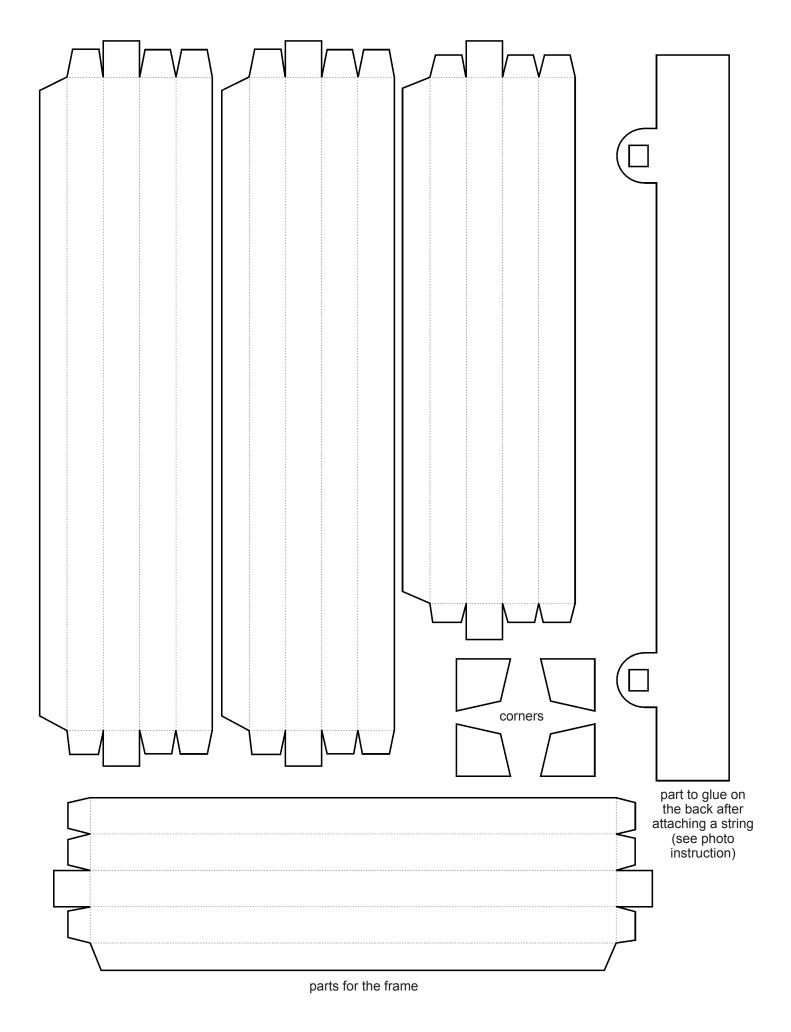


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